THE MARYLAND YELLOWTHROAT

Newsletter of the Maryland Ornithological Society

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DNR REPORTS . . . by Glenn Therres

By now most of the birding community has heard of Partners in Flight, the international effort to conserve Neotropical migratory birds. This monumental effort started in 1990 at the national level. All of the major land based and environmentally oriented federal agencies, more than 20 non-governmental conservation organizations, all 50 states, and dozens of universities are part of this effort. Over the past year or so the importance of the efforts at the state level have been recognized as an integral part of the solution to neotropical migratory bird conservation.

On October 23 we hosted the first Maryland State Working Group meeting for Partners in Flight at Seneca Creek State Park. We invited over 100 individuals from a variety of organizations to participate, including representatives from each MOS chapter. In total 85 people attended. We had folks from many non-government organizations, universities and colleges, county planning and zoning offices, DNR, State Highway Administration, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, National Park Service and the U.S. Navy.

The purpose of the meeting was to (1) review the threats facing Neotropical migrant landbirds, (2) identify and prioritize the conservation issues related to neotropical migrants in Maryland, and (3) begin developing a state strategy to solve the problems.

The morning session featured four speakers to introduce the Partners in Flight program and explain what has been happening in Maryland with neotropical migratory birds. Chuck Hunter of the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service in Atlanta, Georgia, presented an overview of the Partners in Flight program. Chan Robbins followed with a discussion of the threats, both locally and hemispherically, to these birds. Jim Stasz then presented population trends in Maryland. I concluded the morning presentations with an overview of conservation efforts in our state.

After lunch, all the meeting participants were divided into groups and asked to identify the issues, problems and challenges facing Neotropical migratory bird conservation in Maryland. The groups worked very hard and identified many important issues. Each group then presented their results to the entire audience. All the issues from nine groups were consolidated into a list of 17. Each participant then voted for their top three. Following are the top five issues:

1. Lack of public education and outreach.

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Shenandoah Peregrine Survey Needs Volunteers

The National Park Service in Virginia's Shenandoah National Park is looking for a few hardy birders! Once again they will be carrying out a peregrine falcon cliff nest site survey between March 1 and April 30. Volunteers will be expected to spend 4-6 hours at a site per day, preferably for 2-3 days, but not necessarily continuous days. Participants will have to be present from 1/2-hour before sunrise to 2-3 hours after sunrise or from 2-3 hours before sunset to 1/2-hour after sunset.

Volunteers for this program need to be able to identify peregrine falcons and recognize the displays and other activities associated with courtship. You should be able to hike short to long distances and be able to endure the sometimes

harsh weather conditions encountered at this time of year. You must also be willing and able to record your observations and prepare a report in a legible and professional manner.

The work is entirely voluntary in nature. Entrance fees to the Park will be waived for the duration of the project and back-country camping will be allowed. Shenandoah National Park will provide necessary maps, instructions, and other supplies.

Participants must have hiking boots, warm clothing, rain gear, camping equipment if desired, and appropriate field guides.

Does this sound like a project you would like to get involved with? If so, contact Keith Watson at Shenandoah National Park, Route 4 Box 348, Luray, Virginia 22835, or by phone at 703-999-3496.

Chapter Chatter by Jane Hill

This time, we report on a planned boat trip into Chesapeake Bay, research on soras and northern saw-whet owls, an illustrious local birder, experiences of MOS scholarship winners at Audubon Nature Camps, and other news that has been brought to our attention.

In March 1994, the Anne Arundel Chapter is planning a day trip by boat into the pelagic waters of Chesapeake Bay, to look for the large numbers of waterfowl reported to be present off shore. The boat will leave from either Point Lookout or Crisfield. Interested MOSers should contact Al Haury, at 410-757-3523.

Research notes.....From the Jug Bay Chapter comes the news that a University of Maryland graduate student, Nina Kwartin, working with Patuxent River Park Naturalist Greg Kearns, banded nearly 130 soras during the birds' fall 1993 migration through the Jug Bay marshes. In pursuit of a Master's degree in environmental studies, Nina is trying to determine how many soras, whose numbers have declined in recent years, visit Jug Bay during migration, how long they stay, what part of the marsh they inhabit, and what plants they feed on. In order to capture these secretive birds for banding, Nina and Greg not only played tapes of

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The Conservation Corner
by Richard J. Dolesh

The Fight to Renew the Endangered Species Act

The most important conservation legislation in a generation, the re-authorization of the Endangered Species Act (ESA) will soon be before our United States Congress for a vote.

The federal Endangered Species Act has proven to be one of the most important conservation tools in our nation since it was enacted in 1973. In essence, the ESA requires that any large scale modifications of the environment which might have a negative effect on designated endangered species require environmental impact statements and assessments of risks to the affected species before being allowed to proceed. In the twenty-year history of this legislation, the provisions of this Act have proven to be the only effective stopper to many inappropriate or ill-conceived large scale development, energy, and transportation projects. In fact, it is evident that

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For information on advertising rates and deadlines, contact the editor.

Copy deadlines for the March/April 1994 issue are:

March-May Calendar Activities:
January 25, 1994

All Other Submissions:
February 1, 1994

Conservation Corner
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the ESA has often been the only effective means of halting development projects when other legislative, judicial, or executive branch methods failed.

The need for a comprehensive, effective endangered species program in America cannot be denied. Our planet, and our nation are faced with the greatest rate of species extinction since the disappearance of the dinosaurs 65 million years ago. Nearly 9,000 plant and animal species in the United States alone are at risk. Three thousand species are waiting to be placed on the Endangered Species List. Up to one quarter of the world's species could be lost within the next 50 years.

As vital as the need for an effective ESA may be, there are equally compelling reasons for the orderly progress of economic growth and development at local, regional, and national levels. Despite the healthy system of checks and balances presently in place through the Endangered Species Act, many special interest users of natural resources, such as timber, mining, and development interests, are actively opposed to an effective endangered species protection program.

Also, there is a growing movement collectively known as the "wise use" movement, which portrays legislation such as the ESA as an unreasonable curb to the exercise of private property rights. The "wise use" movement and its adherents have grown exponentially in the past ten years. Proponents are vocal in their desire to gut the ESA in favor of an ideology that is diametrically opposed to our Nation's endangered species protection program.

The "wise use" movement and private property rights empowerment groups deserve more examination and discussion. Their arguments are not without merit and anyone who seriously cares about conservation of our nation's natural resources should not take these movements lightly. In a future column of the "Conservation Corner" I will discuss the pro's and con's of their positions, but

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Chapter Chatter
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sora calls, but also played to the birds' known responsiveness to sharp noises, by slapping canoe paddles against the water. At some spots in the marsh, Nina and Greg heard more than 20 soras calling at once. Look for the research paper to be presented by Greg and Nina at the MOS Annual Conference in May 1994. Greg hopes to continue the sora research in coming years, and welcomes graduate students interested in the study to contact him, at 301-627-6074.

More on research, from Garrett County (which lacks an MOS chapter but nevertheless has an active group of birders)....Kevin Dodge, a wildlife and biology teacher at Garrett Community College, working with a group of students, captured 142 northern saw-whet owls for banding between October 18 and December 4, 1993. This is the largest number of saw-whets ever captured during fall migration in Maryland. In one night alone, Kevin and his team captured 16 saw-whets. Most of the owls captured are thought to be migrants. This spring, Kevin and his students are planning to continue a survey of breeding saw-whets that began a few years ago. MOS supports the research on Garrett County saw-whets through a grant from the Research Committee. David Brinker, Chairman of that committee, will provide more details on the research on breeding and migrating saw-whets in Maryland, at a meeting of the Metropolitan Washington Raptor Society, to be held at the National Wildlife Federation, in Vienna, VA, on Monday, February 28 (call Paul Napier, at 703-620-1755, for meeting details); and at the Harford County MOS Chapter meeting on Friday, March 4 (call Jean Fry, 410-452-8539, for details).

Lola Oberman, well known Montgomery County Chapter birder and author of such books as **The Pleasures of Watching Birds** and **Dial 'B' for Birder**, is profiled in the November/December issue of "Birdwatcher's Digest". The article recounts Lola's growing involvement with birding, first starting as a 7-year-old, but beginning seriously in 1969. The article also provides interesting details about her background and writing career.

Tom Trafton, an environmental science teacher and one of two Harford County Chapter winners of MOS scholarships to last summer's Audubon Ecology Camps, reports that his experience at the camp in Maine included: bird walks and star gazing; lessons in geology, physical oceanography, orienteering, and pond ecology; and protozoan labs, intertidal zone studies, a botany hike in a mature spruce-fir forest, bottom dredges, and observation of a puffin breeding colony. Plenty of exercise, great food (including lobster), and camaraderie, in addition to the good birding and natural history studies, highlighted Tom's experience.

Harford County Chapter's other scholarship winner, outdoor educator Carol Kehring, reports that the Audubon Camp in the West provided her with expertise in solar cooking, animal lore, and

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DNR Reports . . .

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2. Need to increase research.
3. An ecosystem approach to land planning and management is needed for effective conservation.
4. Lack of communication and education between managers, researchers and planners.
5. Inadequate acreage and management of public lands.

Other issues dealt with funding, private lands, data management, laws and regulations, pesticides, and others. A complete summary is available upon request.

Many strategies were proposed by the participants for addressing the issues identified above. At the end of the meeting it was decided to incorporate these issues and solutions into a comprehensive planning document to outline the actions necessary to accomplish Neotropical migratory bird conservation in Maryland. With so many different partners involved, a road map or plan is a must. Four working committees (monitoring, research, management, and information & education) were established to help prepare this plan and to implement necessary actions. A steering committee will also be formed to oversee the efforts here in Maryland.

My office serves as Maryland's official representative to the regional and national Partners in Flight program, so we will coordinate Maryland's efforts through the steering committee and working group. DNR cannot do this alone, nor should we. Many partners are needed to reverse the declining populations of Neotropical migratory birds in our state. The Maryland State Working Group was established to better coordinate such efforts. Judging from the enthusiasm of the participants at the first meeting, we are off to a great start. The Working Group is open to anyone interested in helping. Its success depends on everyone!

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Conservation Corner

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for now, the central issue is the fight to gain an effective re-authorization of the ESA.

As often happens with federal legislation, one bill tends to become a vehicle for a number of separate initiatives. This is the case for the ESA Amendments of 1993, which have been grouped under H.R. 2043 (Studds-Dingell-Saxton). In the House there are approximately 100 co-sponsors for H.R. 2043. There is a companion bill in the Senate with essentially the same provisions, S. 921 (Baucus-Chafee). In Maryland, Representatives Cardin, Gilchrest, Morella, and Wynn have signed on as co-sponsors of H.R. 2043. At this writing Representatives Mfume, Hoyer, and Bentley have not signed on as co-sponsors. It is imperative that each of these U.S. Representatives be contacted to urge their support for H.R. 2043. On the Senate side, S. 921 has about 14 co-sponsors, including Senator Sarbanes. Senator Mikulski should be contacted and urged to co-sponsor S. 921.

In opposition to the ESA renewal is a piece of legislation known as H.R. 1490 (Tauzin-Fields), which also has about 100 co-sponsors, including Maryland's Roscoe Bartlett. This bill would cripple the ESA. H.R. 1490 should be vigorously opposed to all members of the Maryland Congressional Delegation, especially Representative Bartlett.

Co-sponsorship of a bill is generally a sign that a Representative or Senator agrees philosophically with the provisions of the bill, and that he or she goes on record at an early stage supporting the basic concepts of the bill. Co-sponsorship is generally a no-fault provision since major bills are ultimately thrashed out in committees before being voted upon on the floor. These committee sessions are critical to passage of any legislation and often mean the difference between a weak bill and a strong bill.

It has long been known that the ultimate disposition of the ESA will be a compromise. This makes it all the more important that the American public speak out forcefully for an effective continuation of the endangered species program. In fact, the ESA needs to be strengthened to include: priority for listing and recovery plans that protect the habitat of candidate species, advance planning to prevent future listings, multi-species recovery plans and priority for those species whose designation would reduce the need to list other species. Finally, the act should set deadlines for developing species recovery plans and putting them into action, as well as increasing current funding for enforcement. The provisions of H.R. 2043/S. 921 will provide for these changes in the Act. These provisions must be upheld in the coming fight for renewal of this legislation.

The Maryland Ornithological Society has agreed to become a part of the Endangered Species Coalition of Maryland, which is a consortium of Maryland's conservation organizations working for re-authorization of the ESA. Many conservation and environmental organizations have made this a top legislative priority for the coming year. All MOS members should become aware of the

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Conservation Corner

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issues and should take individual responsibility to contact their U.S. Congressional Representatives and Senators.

This is not just a fight for the spotted owl or the desert tortoise. Species which we value highly in Maryland, such as the bald eagles, peregrine falcons, Delmarva fox squirrels, and piping plovers will benefit directly from renewal of the ESA.

Addresses to write your Members in Congress are as follow:

The Honorable _____
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable _____
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Endangered Species Coalition of Maryland has a hotline for ESA legislation with announcements on hearings and other information at 202-547-9009.

Chapter Chatter

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tracking, in addition to recharging her sense of environmental responsibility. (Note: MOS scholarships to Audubon Nature Camps are awarded each year to individuals who will use the knowledge gained at camp to teach ecology and ornithology to others. To apply, call Isa Sieracki, at 410-273-6201.)

Finally, we venture beyond the state boundary to note that Pennsylvania is publishing an atlas of breeding birds, similar to the Maryland atlas. Reports are that the **Atlas of Breeding Birds in Pennsylvania** is thorough, well organized, and attractive. You can purchase it from the University of Pittsburgh Press, 127 Bellefield Ave., Pittsburgh, PA 15260, for $34.95 plus $3 shipping. Call, toll-free, 1-800-666-2211.

MOS Board Meeting Notes December 11, 1993 by Norm Saunders

Since the minutes of the December 11 board meeting have not yet been accepted by the board, these notes are my impressions of the high points of that meeting. They should not be construed as an official record of what transpired there, but are based on my recollections, supplemented by Sybil Williams' first draft of the minutes.

The meeting, hosted by the Howard County Chapter this time around, was called to order by President Bill Newman at 10:40 a.m. MOS Treasurer Larry Fry distributed the financial report for the period May 1 through December 5. If anyone wants a copy of the report, they should contact Larry directly at 410-452-8539.

Sue Ricciardi reported on the joint meeting/conference sponsored by the MD Department of Natural Resources and Partners in Flight. For more information, see Glenn Therres' column on page 1 of this newsletter.

On the budget front, committee chairs were asked to begin laying out their proposed needs for the coming year. These requests should be submitted to Emily Joyce, the chairperson of the budget committee by early 1994.

The annual conference has had 177 people sign up so far but we still need about 100 more. Come on, folks!

The conservation chairman, Rich Dolesh, gave his usual comprehensive report on issues coming up at the national, state, and local levels. See his column elsewhere in this issue for more on the reauthorization of the Endangered Species Act.

The Talbot Chapter has been tasked to search for property on the Eastern Shore of Maryland that could be purchased with the proceeds of the John Wenuga estate. The Talbot folks reported at the meeting that an opportunity has come up to purchase a piece of land in cooperation with the Pickering Creek Environmental Center, a purchase which would help tie together several other parcels of protected woodlands, thus ensuring a relatively large protected corridor of woodland habitat in Talbot County. The board approved their request to actively pursue this opportunity.

As chair of the library committee, Joy Wheeler asked that the board approve the purchase of two expensive reference texts, the **Birds of North America** (approximately $1,900) and the **Handbook of Birds of the World** ($200 per volume, number of volumes not known for sure). The material would then be donated to the Pratt Library in Baltimore and thus made available to all Marylanders through the inter-library loan program in the state. Her request was approved.

Jo Solem, chairperson of the long-range planning committee, noted that she still would like to get more of the questionnaires back that originally appeared in the September/October issue of the ***Maryland Yellowthroat.*** The more responses she receives, the better job her committee can do in planning for the long-range development goals of the Society.

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An Open Letter From the DNR's Wildlife Division

November 10, 1993

To W.M.A. Supporters and Participants:

I am pleased to inform everyone that the Wildlife Management Area (W.M.A.) planning effort is moving along at a steady pace thanks to the help and the hard work of the Public W.M.A. Advisory Planning Committee. The State's W.M.A. Planning Committee is currently drafting the master plan document that will serve to guide the development of individual W.M.A. plans. Our desire is to have the draft master plan completed by the first of the year for public review. After the master plan is accepted, individual plans will be developed and presented at regional open houses. I will keep everyone informed of future opportunities for us to "Work Together."

To demonstrate how we have incorporated public comments and suggestions into the planning process, the following actions have been taken.

At workshops across the State, the Wildlife Division repeatedly heard 4 consistent themes that helped us focus on specific aspects of the plan. I would like to address each of the themes and elaborate on the Wildlife Division's efforts to address each one.

1. Conservation and management of the wildlife resource is the highest priority. In order to insure that all wildlife species and their respective habitats are maintained or improved on W.M.A.'s statewide, the Division has developed a management process termed "Ecosystem Approach to Management". The Ecosystem approach consists of a series of guidelines, designed to maintain the functional integrity of the ecosystem and, subsequently, all wildlife species that occur within the ecosystem. All proposed management and recreational activities must be consistent with these guidelines.
2. Need to better inform and educate the general public about W.M.A.'s and wildlife management. The Division has identified several strategies to inform and educate the public. First of all, the master plan (Statewide guidance document) will include specific regional demonstration and education opportunities for W.M.A.'s. Secondly, the Division is in the process of developing a statewide informational brochure for W.M.A.'s. I have also appointed an Information and Education Committee within the Wildlife Division to address the broader perspective of Wildlife I&E statewide.
3. Need to acquire more land under the W.M.A. system. The master plan will emphasize the critical role that W.M.A.'s play in future recreation opportunities as additional areas of the State are developed. The plan will include regional priorities for fee simple acquisition, conservation easements and cooperative management schemes.

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Sanctuary News by Dotty Mumford

During September we replaced the storm windows at Irish Grove. Unfortunately, the screen on one of the new windows was cut out when someone broke into the house. Only minor items were taken, such as stainless cutlery, plastic dishpans, and the extra supply of paper towels, toilet paper and trash bags. There is little we can do to stop the break-ins. They are annoying and it is a problem to constantly have to replace the missing items, but I'm just grateful that so far the house has not been vandalized. People visiting Irish Grove for a weekend should be aware that they can't depend on finding the house well-equipped. Please let us know if you find items missing.

Ten people from the Howard, Anne Arundel, and Harford Chapters participated in the workday at tum Suden on October 16. The interior of the house was given one coat of paint, which greatly improved its appearance. The following week a few members from the Harford Chapter put on a second coat, finishing the cleanup before transferring the property to the Harford County School system. The paperwork for the transfer is still underway.

Twenty-one people from the Anne Arundel, Baltimore, Howard, and Wicomico Chapters took part in the workday weekend at Irish Grove on November 6-7. The weather was cloudy and cool on Saturday morning but crews were still able to install new bridges at the end of the Rail Trail (where it connects with Round Pond Trail), locate and replace the bridge in the marsh that had floated away last spring, and clear out the honeysuckle from around the propane tank. At 2 p.m. we took a well-earned break for turkey dinner. The turkeys were provided by Ruth Denit and the trimmings by members of the Wicomico Chapter. As we ate, the heavens opened up and it was just too wet and cold to do any more work that day, so we had a good time relaxing and birding. By Sunday morning the weather improved and we were able to prepare the fields for the mowers who will come along later this year.

The spring workday dates are April 9 & 10 for Irish Grove and April 30 for Carey Run. Please note the dates on your calendar and join us!

1994 Annual Meeting Update
by Paul Bystrak

Every MOS member should have received the MOS Annual Conference registration form in the mail by now. If you did not receive one, please write to Jean Fry at: 1202 Ridge Road., Pylesville, MD 21132. Many thanks to Jean for putting together such an attractive registration form! And thanks also to Mark Johnson, the artist who drew the beautiful heron on the front cover. We would also like to thank Tom Congersky for leading a group of Harford County volunteers who spent the afternoon of November 16th folding, stapling, and addressing over 1700 forms! Those volunteers were Dave Seitz, Jim Murdza, Bob Myers, and Tom Howard. David Webb was responsible for assembling the list of potential field trip sites, for which we are also grateful.

We are beginning to look for items for our raffle and silent auction. If you have something to donate please contact Tom Congersky at 410-676-6489 or Sybil Williams at 301-672-0560 respectively.

We have had questions about handicap access at Sandy Cove. While the rooms are located on three levels, the facility is built into the side of a hill, so there are ground level entrances for all three floors. There is also a self-service elevator and several rooms designed specifically for the handicapped. Should you have a need for such a room, please indicate this on your registration form.

Obviously, most of the field trips would be a severe challenge for the handicapped, but there are a few where the view from the parking lot (Turkey Point, Conowingo Dam, Susquehanna State Park, C&D Canal) is incredible and good for birding. Pea Patch Island and Susquehanna Flats both involve boats, so if the birder can be lifted aboard, then there should be no problem. The banding demonstration at Harford Glen, the two garden trips, and the museums are also accessible to the handicapped. The spacious Chesapeake Lounge at Sandy Cove has a beautiful view of the water, where one could sit with a scope and see many water birds. However, please remember that whether or not these trips are offered depends on the results of the field trip survey.

Speaking of which, please look over the field trip survey and make sure you return it with your registration. This will help us better plan the Convention field trips.

There are still a few rooms left, so if you neglected to register but still want to come to the conference, get your registration in to us as soon as possible! If there are any other questions please call Linda or Paul Bystrak at 410-392-5621.

Open Letter From DNR
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4. Willingness to provide financial support or increase partnerships to maintain or acquire land for W.M.A.'s. I have established a committee to investigate alternative funding sources and to develop a protocol for partnerships.

Specific Public Desires: In addition to the general comments mentioned above, I have asked the W.M.A. Planning Committee to review each and every comment heard at the meetings or shared in correspondence. These comments have been categorized and evaluated for compatibility with the Mission and Goals for W.M.A.'s. All compatible uses or desires have been forwarded to the appropriate Regional Managers for consideration. Based upon their recommendations, the draft master plan will focus on regional priorities for new initiatives or improvements that we can implement on specific areas.

Finally, I'd like to stress the need for your continued assistance and support in this effort. I look forward to future cooperation.

Sincerely,
Joshua L. Sandt, Director

MOS Summer Scholarships: Training in Ecology and Ornithology

Ecology Scholarships: The Maryland Ornithological Society is now accepting applications from Maryland teachers and youth leaders for five scholarships to summer ecology workshops which the National Audubon Society holds at its camps in Maine, Connecticut, and Wyoming. Each grant covers the cost of tuition, room, and board for an intensive six-day course of field study and instruction in ecology, conservation, and natural history.

Ornithology Scholarships: The MOS is also accepting applications from Maryland teachers and youth leaders for one scholarship for a week of study in ornithology at the Audubon summer workshop in Maine.

Requirements: The MOS requires that its scholarship recipients work with young people. This includes teachers, camp counselors, park rangers, students, and others who are or are planning to make nature education a part of their careers. Applicants need not be members of MOS, but must be endorsed by a chapter or a member of MOS. Each candidate must provide a written statement showing how the Audubon experience will be used to develop in young people an appreciation of our wild heritage and a sense of responsibility for the care and quality of our natural resources and environment. Additionally, two or more letters from individuals who know of the candidate's interests and activities are requested.

Applications for the 1994 season are due by January 31 to Isa Sieracki, Chairperson of the MOS Scholarship Committee, 792 Everist Drive, Aberdeen, MD 21001, 410-273-6201.

Board Meeting Notes
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Chan Robbins noted that he is receiving galleys from the University of Pittsburgh for the Atlas. It is beginning to look like 1994 will be the year this marathon project will come to an end!

Sue Ricciardi stated that the nest record collection program has become somewhat inactive in the state of late. Look for some future articles in the ***Maryland Yellowthroat*** about getting this program underway once more.

The issue of what species should or should not be included in the updated "Yellow Book," currently being put together by Bob Ringler, Jim Stasz, and Marshall Iliff reared its head once again. The question is, should bird sightings which have NOT been accepted by the MD/DC Records Committee appear in the Yellow Book? After a lively discussion a motion was made and approved that such species not be included in the forthcoming Yellow Book.

Finally, Bill Newman noted that the next meeting of the MOS Board of Directors would be held on February 12 at Cylburn Mansion in Baltimore. He then adjourned the meeting at 1:10 p.m.

Education Committee Report
by Linda Bystrak

I would like to thank Phil Davis for volunteering again to be in charge of the MOS Speakers' Bureau. Anyone who needs to reach him can call him at 301-261-0184. We always need more speakers and more topics, so if you are interested please call Phil.

On Saturday, October 9th, eight MOS members met at Gloria Meade's lovely home in Montgomery County for an education committee meeting. Gloria made our long journey worthwhile by rewarding us with a delicious luncheon of homemade soup, salads, and desserts. After lunch we proceeded to analyze the results of the 4 page education survey which all but 2 chapters returned. Over 60 MOS members had filled out the survey. The results were as varied as could be, but there was a consensus on some items. The committee will meet again on January 22 in Cylburn Mansion, 4915 Greenspring Ave. in Baltimore, at noon. The snow date is January 29th. Participants are encouraged to bring a bag lunch, and drinks will be provided. For directions call Joy Wheeler at 410-825-1204. Only half of the chapters sent a representative, so please ask someone to represent your group. We have to complete our summary of the survey and adopt a long range plan.

One of our survey questions asked whether MOS should support a program called "Scales and Tales". Most of those surveyed had already seen a presentation of the program and responded in a positive manner. Some even wrote glowing endorsements. Only a few members had not yet heard of "Scales and Tales", possibly because the program has only recently moved to Western Maryland and the Eastern Shore.

For those MOS members who have not yet met Bill Troutman or his crew of "Scales and Tales" naturalists, you are in for a pleasant surprise! Bill and his staff have "adopted" over 60 injured/abandoned birds, reptiles and even spiders. Many of the animals are brought to them by DNR employees who find them abandoned in state parks. Some of these species are from the tropics (tarantulas, iguanas, and snakes) and would have died during winter. Many of them are abandoned pets and do not know how to find food, but most of them are injured by cars, cats, bullets, fish nets, plastic six pack holders, and so on. Most just need a little TLC while they recuperate. Releasing them back to the wild is an event to which Bill's whole staff looks forward.

Those animals that can never be released are "put to work". If they are docile enough they become part of an education program available for school assemblies, senior citizen and youth group meetings, civic groups, library programs, and even ornithology club meetings. Every animal has its own story that is both informative and entertaining for people of all ages.

DNR is not in the business of animal rehabilitation, so donations are necessary to keep the program and its animals alive. All of the animals' food and the salaries of the presenters are paid for through donations to the Maryland State Park Foundation. "Scales and Tales" is now located at Shad Landing, Merkle, Gunpowder State Park, Harrington Manor, Rocky Gap, and Cunningham Falls. To receive more information, to schedule a presentation for an MOS meeting, or to make a contribution call 410-922-8825. Bill and his staff are eager to work with MOS to teach the public more about ornithology.

"Scales and Tales" is not the only rehabilitation group in the area. The Horsehead Nature Center (Grasonville, MD), Tri-State Bird Rescue (Newark, DE) and the Chesapeake Wildlife Center located in Bowie, MD all have licensed facilities. There are also numerous individuals and zoos who are licensed to take care of such animals. As a matter of fact, if you know who these people and facilities are, could you please send me their name, address, phone number and details about their work? It would be nice to print a directory of them for MOS members, and they could be a valuable ornithology education resource. My address is: 6 Deer Court, Elkton, MD 21921.

One additional note: Dr. Don Messersmith is working with Dr. Wayne Kuenzel to teach a four-credit ornithology course at the University of Maryland in College Park this Spring. The course is listed as ANSC 350. He is also teaching ornithology for the U.S. Department of Agriculture/Audubon Naturalist Field School this Spring, two nights a week in March at College Park. Dr. Messersmith is even available to conduct an accredited course with the MD State Department of Education, called "Bird Biology", for teachers in any county. For more information about these courses or any of the exciting nature tours that he leads around the world, call him at 301-593-2522.

BIRD ONE OF THE 12 TOP SPOTS IN THE US: THE UPPER TEXAS COAST !

Phil and Barbara Davis, owners of the Wild Bird Center in Columbia, Maryland will be making their fifth trip to the Upper Texas Coast to the Houston/Galveston/High Island area in April. This area has been named one of the 12 best birding "hot spots" in the US by Wild Bird magazine. There will be MANY great birds of all kinds, but the specialties are WARBLERS - and lots of them. Sit on the bench at Audubon Woods and watch them parade to Purkey's Pond for a drink, or step into the "cathedral" and be prepared to duck from Black-and-White Warblers buzzing you, or get used to ignoring "trash birds" — Chestnut-sided Warblers one day and Blackburnian Warblers the next!

Around 200 species can be expected on this trip, including 25-30 species of warblers, as well as many varieties of tanagers, thrushes, buntings, vireos, orioles, cuckoos, many terns, plenty of shorebirds, all of the herons and egrets, Roseate Spoonbills, bitterns, rails, and many other great birds, both anticipated and unexpected. Unusual birds we will specifically try for include the endangered Red-cockaded Woodpecker, and the elusive Bachman's Sparrow and Swainson's Warbler.

Airfares have recently dropped, so the cost of this six day trip will only be approximately $650 per person. This includes airfare, lodging, ground transportation, and passes/fees to natural areas. The only costs not included are for food. This trip is being organized by Baltimore's Dietze & Renner, Travel Agents. Departure is from BWI Airport on Saturday April 23 and the return is on Thursday, April 28. If you are interested in experiencing the spectacle of spring migration "up-close and personal" call Clem Dietz at (410) 727-6868 for a detailed itinerary, a bird list, and cost information.

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Saturday, January 15

FIELD TRIP. Frederick. Wherever birds can be found in Frederick County in January. Meet 7:30 a.m. at boat house on Culler Lake, 2nd Street & Baker Park, Frederick. For further information, contact the leader, Wilbur Hershberger at 310-898-9088.

FIELD TRIP. Harford. Conowingo Dam and Elkton Landfill. Morning gull watch led by Gene Scarpulla with Lesser Black-backed, Glaucous, and Iceland Gulls possible. Meet at Fisherman's Park at Conowingo Dam at 8:00 a.m. Coordinator is Don Soubie, 410-569-2159.

Tuesday, January 18

MEETING. Montgomery. "Naturalists and Novelists" by David Spector. 8:00 p.m. at Potomac Presbyterian Church, Potomac.

Thursday, January 20

MEETING. Jug Bay. "Mid-Atlantic Hawk Migration" by Kerrie Kirkpatrick, winner of the 1992 'Pioneering Hawk Watch Award' from the Hawk Migration Association of America. 7:00 p.m. at Patuxent River Park. For more information, call 301-627-6074.

Friday, January 21

MEETING. Caroline. "Cypress Swamps of the Eastern Shore" by Dr. Robert Trever. 7:30 p.m., Caroline County Public Library in Denton. For more information contact Debby Bennett, 410-479-2978.

Saturday, January 22

GULL DAY '94. The third annual regional midwinter gull survey. For further information, contact the coordinators, Rick Blom at 410-893- 4339 or Gene Scarpulla at 410-821-0575.

FIELD TRIP Anne Arundel. Winter Gull Trip. Destination will be determined by the leader. Meet 8:00 a.m. in the Parole Plaza parking lot, on Riva Rd. side next to cemetery. For further information, contact the leader, Jim Stasz at 410-257-9540.

FIELD TRIP. Montgomery. "OWL-IT." 3:00-4:00 p.m. For further information and reservations, call the leader, Tom Valega, at 301-424- 7289.

Sunday, January 23

FIELD TRIP. Howard. Habitat walk at Rockburn Branch Park. Cosponsored with the Howard County Rec. & Parks. One hour. Meet at 1:00 p.m. at the park office off Landing Road. For further information, contact the leader, Bob Solem, at 301-725-5037.

Monday, January 24

MEETING. Wicomico. "The Kings Currency: Dominance in Winter Tundra Swans" by Phil Creighton. 7:30 p.m. at Asbury United Methodist Church, Salisbury.

Tuesday, January 26

FIELD TRIP. Howard. Centennial Park. Weekday walk. Meet 9:00 a.m. at the west end lot. For further information, contact Bonnie Ott at 410-461-3361.

Saturday, January 29

FIELD TRIP. Anne Arundel. Patuxent River Park. Look and listen for owls in this park. Meet 6:00 **p.m.** in the Parole Plaza parking lot, on Riva Rd. side next to cemetery. For further information, contact the leader, Barbara Ricciardi at 301-464-1962.

FIELD TRIP. Baltimore. New Design Road and Lily Pons. Horned Larks, Lapland Longspurs, sparrows and hawks. Scopes recommended. Meet 8:00 a.m. at the Security Blvd Park & Ride lot. For further information, contact the leader, Leader: Jim Wilkinson at 410-381-9250.

FIELD TRIP. Jug Bay. Patuxent River Park. Field trip for owls. Joint field trip with Anne Arundel Bird Club. Meet 6:00 p.m. at the end of Croom Airport Road. For further information, contact the leader, Mike Callahan, 301-390-1182.

Sunday, January 30

FIELD TRIP. Anne Arundel. Annapolis Neck. Winter birding and hot soup at the Fords. Meet at 12 noon at the Bay Ridge Shopping Center. For further information, contact the leaders, John and Helen Ford, at 410-267-8417.

FIELD TRIP. Wicomico. Ocean City to Cape Henlopen. All day. Meet 7:30 a.m. at the Asbury United Methodist Church, Salisbury. Leaders TBA. For further information, contact Charles Vaughn at 410- 742-7221.

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Tuesday, February 1

MEETING. Baltimore "The Final Frontier: Retrofitting People and Wildlife Into the Urban Center of the Middle Branch of the Patapsco River" by Michael Baker. 7:30 p.m. at Cylburn Mansion. For further information, contact Pete Webb of Baltimore at 410-486-1217.

Thursday, February 3

MEETING. Frederick. "Farewell to Midway Island - Bird Studies on Midway" by Erika Wilson & Claudia Wilds. 7:30 p.m. in the Music Room at Frederick High School. 650 College Parkway, Frederick. For further information, contact Helen Horrocks of Frederick at 301-831-6315.

Friday, February 4

MEETING. Anne Arundel. "Bald Eagles in Maryland" by Glen Therres. 8:00 p.m. at Severn River Junior High School, Peninsula Farm Road, Arnold.

Saturday, February 5

FIELD TRIP. Harford. Bradenbaugh. Horned Lark, Snow Bunting, Savannah Sparrow, and White-crowned Sparrow are possible. Meet at 9:00 a.m. at Bethel Church, 1/4-mile west of Madonna Road on MD 23. For more information, contact the leader, Dennis Kirkwood at 410-692-5905.

FIELD TRIP. Montgomery. Coastal Trip, Ocean City to Broadkill Marsh. For further information and reservations call the leader, John Bjerke, at 301-963-8525.

Sunday, February 6

FIELD TRIP. Anne Arundel. Greenberry Point. Winter ducks and land birds, possible bald eagle. Meet 7:30 a.m. in the Parole Plaza parking lot, on Riva Rd. side next to cemetery. For further information, contact the leader, Al Haury, at 410-757-3523.

FIELD TRIP. Baltimore. Conowingo Dam. Thousands of gulls, possibly some rarities, as well as waterfowl, raptors and eagles. Wear warm clothing and boots. Telescopes useful. Meet at the White Marsh Mall on the NE side of Sears. For further information, contact the leader, Pete Webb at 410-486-1217.

Thursday, February 10

FIELD TRIP. Howard. Wilde Lake. Weekday walk. Meet 9:00 a.m. at the boat dock. For further information, contact Bonnie Ott at 410-461-3361.

MEETING. Howard. "Bird Feeder Studies in Howard County" by Al Geis. 7:45 p.m. at Longfellow Elementary School, Columbia.

MEETING. Montgomery. "Natural History of Owls" by Paul Engman. 8:00 p.m. at Potomac Presbyterian Church, Potomac.

Saturday, February 12

FIELD TRIP. Frederick. Trip to Sandy Hook area of the C&O Canal for waterfowl and other wintering birds. Meet 7:30 a.m. at boat house on Culler Lake, 2nd Street & Baker Park, Frederick. For further information, contact the leader, Mike Welch, at 301-874-5828.

Sunday February 13

FIELD TRIP. Washington. Trip to Gettysburg area for short-eared owls and possibly other owls on return trip home. Leave at 3:00 p.m. from the Park & Ride lot next to the MVA, west side of MD Rt. 65, south of I-70. For further information, contact Ann Mitchell at 301-432-2021.

Thursday, February 17

MEETING. Jug Bay. "The Boobies of Galapagos" by Geoff Lane of 30th Street Nature Center. 7:00 p.m. at Patuxent River Park. For more information, call 301-627-6074.

Friday, February 18

MEETING. Caroline. "Colonial Waterbirds" by Dave Brinker. 7:30 p.m., Caroline County Public Library in Denton. For more information contact Debby Bennett, 410-479-2978.

Friday-Sunday, February 18-20

FIELD TRIP. Montgomery. President's weekend coastal trip. Joint trip with ANS. For further information and reservation call the leader, Paul DuMont, at 703-931-8994.

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Saturday-Monday, February 19-21

FIELD TRIP. Anne Arundel. Annual Winter Weekend. Winter birding in areas to the South. Meet 7:00 a.m. in the Parole Plaza parking lot, on Riva Rd. side next to cemetery. Make reservations by February 15 by contacting the co-leaders, Al Haury, at 410-757-3523 or Peter Hanan, at 410-721-2658.

Saturday, February 19

FIELD TRIP. Baltimore. Cape Henlopen-Ocean City. Trip to Delaware coast and Ocean City in search of winter seabirds. Scoters, Oldsquaw, Brant, Purple Sandpipers, Red-throated Loons, and Gannets are likely. Possibilities include eiders, Harlequin Ducks, and rare gulls. Telescopes useful. Meet at 7:30 a.m. at the Nursery Road - Hammonds Ferry Road Park & Ride lot. Optional meeting place Cape May-Lewes Ferry parking lot at 9:30 a.m. For further information, contact the leader, Pete Webb at 410-486-1217.

NESTING BOX WORKSHOP. Harford. Pre-order from four different rough-cut, cedar designs, then assemble the box at Conowingo Visitors Center located next to Conowingo Dam. Fee charged for materials. Call June Vaughn by January 28 for information/orders at 410-457-5011.

FIELD TRIP. Howard. Gulls at Alpha Ridge. Hoping for Lesser Black-backed Gull. Half day. Meet 9:30 a.m. Leader - Nancy Magnussen. Space limited. Call Bonnie Ott at 410-461-3361 to reserve space and get info.

FIELD TRIP. Kent. Feeder talk at the home of Pat and Stan Wilson. For further information and directions, call the Wilson's at 410-778- 1005.

Sunday, February 20

FIELD TRIP. Jug Bay. Birding spots in Montgomery County. Meet 8:00 a.m. at Greenbelt Lake. For further information, contact the leader, Mike Callahan, at 301-390-1182.

Tuesday February 22

MEETING. Washington. Pot Luck Supper - Bring your own slides. Everyone bring a dish to share for dinner at 6:00 p.m., meeting at 7:30 p.m. at the Greenbrier State Park Hospitality Room. Contact Betty Wolfe at 301-824-5391 if you plan to bring slides.

Friday, February 25

FIELD TRIP. Howard. Rockburn Branch Park. Weekday walk. Meet at 9:00 p.m. at the park office off Landing Road. For further information, contact the leader, Bonnie Ott at 410-461-3361.

Saturday, February 26

FIELD TRIP. Anne Arundel. The Nature Conservancy's Choptank Wetlands. A 2000' boardwalk. Meet 8:00 a.m. in Busch's Chesapeake Inn parking lot on Rt. 50. For further information, contact Al Haury at 410-757-3523.

FIELD TRIP. Baltimore. Black Marsh, Fort Howard, Millers Island. For hundreds of late winter waterfowl, marsh birds. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at North Point Rd. and Millers Island Rd., Edgemere. For further information, contact the leader, Marty Cribb at 410-866- 4267.

FIELD TRIP. Montgomery. Cape Henlopen to Ocean City. Snow buntings, loons, great cormorants; possibly eider and harlequin duck. Meet at 7:30 a.m. at Cape Henlopen State Park. For further information and reservations, contact the leader, Henry Bielstein, at 301-292-9592.

Monday, February 28

MEETING. Wicomico. "Endangered Species in Maryland and the Natural Heritage Program" by Janet McKegg. 7:30 p.m. at Asbury United Methodist Church, Salisbury.

Thursday, March 3

MEETING. Frederick. "Wild Turkeys" by Frank Ryan. 7:30 p.m. in the Music Room at Frederick High School. 650 College Parkway, Frederick. For further information, contact Helen Horrocks of Frederick at 301-831-6315.

Friday, March 4

MEETING. Anne Arundel."Birds in Decline" by Rick Blom. 8:00 p.m. at Severn River Junior High School, Peninsula Farm Road, Arnold.

MEETING. Baltimore. "Partners in Flight: Saving Migratory Birds Here and in the Tropics" by Peter W. Stangel, Director of the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation's Neotropical Migratory Bird Program.

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To be held at the Middle Branch Rowing Center, 3301 Waterview Ave., on South Hanover Street at the bridge. For reservations call Mary Byers at 410-686-7294.

DINNER MEETING. Harford. "Saw-whet Owls in Western Maryland" by Dave Brinker. Dinner served at 6:15 p.m., followed by business meeting and speaker. Churchville Presbyterian Church, MD 22 and MD 136. Dinner reservations required by February 23. Call Jean Fry for additional information at 410-452-8539.

Saturday, March 5

FIELD TRIP. Harford. Lily Pons. All-day Trip in southern Frederick County in search of waterfowl, Short-eared Owl, Loggerhead Shrike, and American Pipit. Meet at 6:00 a.m. at the Park 'n' Ride lot, I-95 & MD 152 interchange. Bring lunch. For further information, contact Tom Congersky at 410-676-6489.

FIELD TRIP. Wicomico. Dorchester County. All day. Meet 7:30 a.m. at the Asbury United Methodist Church, Salisbury. For further information, contact the leaders, Charlie and Gail Vaughn, at 410-742- 7221.

Sunday, March 6

FIELD TRIP. Howard. Mount Pleasant Farm for winter species on this farm that has been acquired by the Howard Conservancy. Half day. Meet 8:00 a.m. at the Park & Ride on Rt. 108 just east of Rt. 29. Leader - David Holmes. For further information, contact Bonnie Ott at 410-461-3361.

Tuesday, March 8

FIELD TRIP. Howard. David Force Park. Weekday walk. Meet 9:00 a.m. at the signpost off Pebble Beach Drive. For further information, contact Bonnie Ott at 410-461-3361.

Thursday, March 10

MEETING. Howard. "Non-game Program: Rescuing Rattlers" by Scott Smith of DNR. 7:45 p.m. at Longfellow Elementary School, Columbia.

Saturday, March 12

FIELD TRIP. Anne Arundel. Gunpowder Falls Park/Edgewood Arsenal. Eagles and ducks. Meet 8:00 a.m. in the Parole Plaza parking lot, on Riva Rd. side next to cemetery. For further information, contact the leader, Doug Forsell, at 410-626-8486.

FIELD TRIP. Baltimore. Gunpowder State Park for late winter birds and waterfowl. Slow easy walk. Telescopes useful. Meet at 9:00 a.m. at the White Marsh Mall on the NE side of Sears. For further information, contact the leader, Bob Rineer at 410-391-8499.

FIELD TRIP. Frederick. Trip to Hughes Hollow for woodcock display flight. Departure time to be announced. For further information, contact the leader, Helen Horrocks of Frederick, at 301-831-6315.

FIELD TRIP. Harford. Loch Raven Reservoir. Morning trip with possible Horned Grebe, Redhead, Red-breasted Nuthatch, and Pine Warbler. Meet at 7:00 a.m. at Youth Benefit Elementary School on MD 152, 1/2-mile southeast of Pleasantville Road. For further information, contact Joe Vangrin at 410-838-5264.

Sunday, March 13

FIELD TRIP. Baltimore. Loch Raven. Waterfowl and land birds, Bald Eagle, bluebirds, Fox Sparrow possible. Telescopes useful. Two- mile level walk. Meet at 8:30 a.m. at the Timonium Park & Ride Lot. For further information, contact the leader, Steve Simon at 410-628- 1929.

FIELD TRIP. Howard. Howard County Waterfowl. Carpool to lakes and ponds for a variety of waterfowl. Half day. Meet 9:00 a.m. Leader - Peter Osenton. For further information, contact Bonnie Ott at 410-461-3361.

FIELD TRIP. Jug Bay. Cuckold Creek in Charles County and the Potomac River and Wicomico River for waterfowl and eagles. Meet 9:00 a.m. For further information, contact the leader, Jean Tierney at 301-627-6074.

Monday, March 14

MEETING. Kent. "Spring Warblers and Songs" by Dr. William Oberman. 7:30 p.m. at the Kent County Library.

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Thursday, March 17

MEETING. Baltimore. "Birding for Bibliophiles." Meet at 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon at the John Work Garrett Library, Evergreen House of the Johns Hopkins University, 4545 N. Charles St. to see old books by Audubon, Wilson, Catesby, John Gould. Lecture by Dr. David Thorndill. To make reservations, call Joy Wheeler at 410-825-1204.

MEETING. Jug Bay. "Birding in Texas: From Blackbellies to Beardless Tyrannulets" by Gregg Kearns. Also election of officers. 7:00 p.m. at Patuxent River Park. For more information, call 301-627-6074.

Friday, March 18

MEETING. Caroline. "A Spring Visit to Crane Creek State Park, Ohio" by Jan Reese and L. T. Short. 7:30 p.m., Caroline County Public Library in Denton. For more information contact Debby Bennett, 410-479-2978.

MEETING. Montgomery. Annual social and election of officers for 1994-1995. 8:00 p.m. at Potomac Presbyterian Church, Potomac.

Saturday, March 19

FIELD TRIP. Harford. Edgewood Area of Aberdeen Proving Ground. Morning trip for early spring migrants including Pine Warbler, Rusty Blackbird, Horned Grebe, and Canvasback. Morning trip begins at 7:00 a.m. at the post's MD 24 gate. For more information, contact the leader, Les Eastman at 410-734-6969.

FIELD TRIP. Washington. Fort Frederick/Big Pool area for early spring birds. Meet at 9:00 a.m. at the Park & Ride lot next to the MVA, west side of MD Rt. 65, south of I-70. For further information, contact the leader, Betty Wolfe, at 301-824-5391.

Sunday, March 20

FIELD TRIP. Anne Arundel. Sandy Point and Westinghouse Property. Heron Rookery. Meet 7:00 a.m. in Busch's Chesapeake Inn parking lot on Rt. 50. For further information, contact the leader, Al Haury, at 410-757-3523.

FIELD TRIP. Baltimore. Four Columbia Lakes. Early waterfowl and other early migrants and lingering winter residents. Meet with Howard Club at 8:00 a.m. at tennis courts at Centennial Lake. For further information, contact Pete Webb at 410-486-1217.

Tuesday March 22

MEETING. Washington. "Piping Plover, A Maryland Endangered Species" by Rodney Bartgis from MD National Heritage Program. 7:30 p.m. at the Greenbrier State Park Hospitality Room.

Wednesday, March 23

FIELD TRIP. Howard. Gwynne Acres. Weekday walk. Meet 9:00 a.m. on Old Columbia Road & Rams Horn Row. For further information, contact Bonnie Ott at 410-461-3361.

Saturday, March 26

FIELD TRIP. Anne Arundel. Jug Bay Wetlands Sanctuary. Early shorebirds and late waterfowl. Meet 7:30 a.m. in the Parole Plaza parking lot, on Riva Rd. side next to cemetery. For further information, contact the leader, Dotty Mumford, at 410-849-8336.

FIELD TRIP. Baltimore. Deal island and Other Eastern Shore Locations. Late winter waterfowl, raptors and early spring arrivals, especially waders and shorebirds. Telescopes useful. Meet at 7:30 a.m. at the Nursery Road - Hammonds Ferry Road Park & Ride lot. For further information, contact the leader, Steve Sanford at 410-922-5103.

FIELD TRIP. Montgomery. Lily Pons area. Late waterfowl, winter birds, early spring migrants. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at bridge on Lily Pons Road. For further information and reservations, contact the leaders, Michael O'Brien at 301-424-6491 or Robert Hilton at 301-270-1740.

Sunday, March 27

FIELD TRIP. Baltimore. Cylburn Trail Walk. Meet 8:30 a.m. at front porch of Cylburn Mansion for a casual self-guided walk. For further information, contact Pete Webb of Baltimore, at 410-486-1217.

FIELD TRIP. Baltimore. Piney Run. Wintering and early spring migrant waterfowl and land birds. Telescopes useful. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at Piney Run Park. For further information, contact the leader, Burton Alexander at 410-381-5574.

MOS Calendar, January-March, 1994

Sunday, January 2

FIELD TRIP. Jug Bay. John James Audubon's "The Birds of America" at the National Gallery of Art. Meet 11:00 a.m. For further information, contact the leader, Mike Callahan, at 301-390-1182.

Tuesday, January 4

FIELD TRIP. Howard. Lake Elkhorn. Weekday walk. Meet 9:00 a.m. at parking lot off Broken Land Parkway. For further information, contact the leader, Bonnie Ott, at 410-461-3361.

Thursday, January 6

MEETING. Frederick. "Gull Identification" by Jim Stasz. Just in time for winter gulls. 7:30 p.m. in the Music Room at Frederick High School. 650 College Parkway, Frederick. For further information, contact Helen Horrocks of Frederick at 301-831-6315.

Friday, January 7

MEETING. Anne Arundel. "The Great Basin Desert" by Dr. Robert W. Trever. 8:00 p.m. at Severn River Junior High School, Peninsula Farm Road, Arnold.

Saturday, January 8

FIELD TRIP. Anne Arundel. Chesapeake Wildlife Sanctuary Tour the Sanctuary/Wildlife Rehabilitation Center. Fee to enter. Meet 1:30 p.m. in the Parole Plaza parking lot, on Riva Rd. side next to cemetery. For further information, contact the leader, Al Haury at 410-757-3523.

FIELD TRIP. Harford. Feeder tour of three homes in eastern and northern Harford County. Meet at 7:30 a.m. at the Mars Supermarket parking lot, southeast corner of MD 22 and Beards Hill Road in Aberdeen. Coordinator is Bill McIntosh, 410-734-6517.

FIELD TRIP. Kent. Feeder watch and walk. Meet at the home of the leaders, John and Marge Lorenz at 8:30 a.m. For further information and directions, call the Lorenz's at 410-928-3291.

Sunday, January 9

MEETING. Baltimore. Covered Dish Supper. 5:30 p.m. at Cylburn Mansion. Lecture follows. "Journey to the End of the World: A Birder's Trip to Tierra del Fuego" by Hank Kaestner. Register with Mary Byers at 410-686-7294 by Thurs., Jan 6.

Thursday, January 13

MEETING. Howard. "Beyond the Field Guides: Applying Banding Information to Field Observations" by David Holmes. 7:45 p.m. at Longfellow Elementary School, Columbia.

Friday, January 14

MEETING. Harford. "Show and Tell" slide presentations by chapter members. 20-slide limit per person. 7:30 p.m. at Churchville Presbyterian Church, MD 22 & MD 136. To participate, call Jean Fry, 410-452- 8539.

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The copy deadline for the March/April issue of the Yellowthroat is January 25 for chapter activities and February 1 for all other submissions.

Send calendar entries for December and January to:

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H: 410-734-6969

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